

Community Living Dufferin 065371 Dufferin County Rd 3, East Garafraxa, ON L9W 7J8

September 16, 2024

Mayor Lisa Post Town Hall 87 Broadway Orangeville, ON, L9W 1K1

Dear Mayor Post and Orangeville Town Councillors,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the Town of Orangeville's free bus transportation initiative over the past two years. This has truly benefited, most specifically, low-income families and individuals receiving the Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP) benefits. The free service has been especially beneficial for those supported by Community Living Dufferin (CLD), significantly enhancing their ability to travel more freely and often.

This initiative has been a lifeline not only for individuals supported by CLD but many in our community, significantly enhancing access to essential services, employment opportunities, and social activities. The continued provision of this transportation service is crucial, as it allows low-income families and ODSP recipients to travel more freely, reducing barriers to accessing vital services such as healthcare, education, and employment. By alleviating transportation costs, the initiative helps families/individuals stretch their budgets further, contributing positively to their overall financial stability.

Additionally, ensuring that all residents, regardless of their financial situation, can participate in community activities fosters a more inclusive and engaged community. Given the substantial benefits that this initiative provides, I respectfully urge the Town of Orangeville to continue funding and supporting the free bus transportation initiative. The positive impact on the lives of our most vulnerable residents cannot be overstated, and maintaining this service is essential to fostering a more equitable and supportive community.

Thank you for considering this request. I am confident that, with your support, we can ensure that our community remains accessible and inclusive for all its members.

Sincerely,

Diane Kite

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Community Living Dufferin

**Executive Director**